

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

Department of Real Time Governance – Prosecution – Sanction under Section 222(4)(a) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for filing complaint by the Public Prosecutor in a competent court of Law against the Editor and Others of Sakshi Newspaper for publishing baseless allegations against the State Government – Accorded - Orders – Issued.

DEPARTMENT OF REAL TIME GOVERNANCE

G.O.RT.No. 1

Dated: 05-03-2025

Read the following:-

1. News Item published in Sakshi Main Newspaper dt:03.02.2025.
2. G.O.Rt.No.2430, G.A. (I&PR) Department, dt:30.10.2019.

ORDER:-

In the reference 1st read above, defamatory news item has been published in the Sakshi Newspaper with the caption 'మన షోకర్ ' .. మరో మరోచుడే! on 03-02-2025, which is libelous, scandalous, untruthful, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news. It was alleged in the said newspaper that, Government willfully deleting Vote of sympathizers of Opposition parties, stopping of Schemes to the Citizens, Breach of Citizen Data, expose of entire Aadhar data to third party and handling by the third party agency.

2. The news article published on 03-02-2025 in Sakshi Telugu Daily Newspaper is factually incorrect and it leads to misconception in the minds of the public and it has failed to present the true facts with regard to the incident happened, despite being aware of the fact that, no schemes were stopped to citizens nor deletion of Votes for sympathizers and Aadhar is not exposed to any third party as data is saved in State Data Centre (SDC), only user interface provided by WhatsApp to Government and Citizen. WhatsApp's end-to-end encryption policy states that all messages, photos, videos, voice messages, documents, status updates, and calls made on the platform are encrypted so that only the sender and recipient can read or listen to them; meaning WhatsApp itself cannot access the content of these communications, ensuring privacy between users.

3. Further, the newspaper contains several false allegations and statements and is based on a wholly erroneous understanding and interpretation of the facts relating to the incident, which has caused enormous prejudice to the Government and damaged the reputation and integrity in the eyes of public. After considering the above facts, it is evident that a deliberate act to tarnish the image of the Government by publishing false news articles which read as whole is per se defamatory in nature, and the same was published without factually ascertaining the truth before publishing the same.

4. The Government after careful examination of the matter and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 222(4)(a) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, hereby accord sanction to the concerned Public Prosecutor to make a complaint before the competent Court against the Managing Director, Chief of News bureau, Bureau Chief, Editor, Publisher and Journalist in view of publishing Defamatory, Derogatory and Venomous news which is devoid of the truth, with the caption 'మన షోకర్ ' .. మరో మరోచుడే! in Sakshi Newspaper dated 03-02-2025 .

5. The Public Prosecutor concerned, shall take immediate further action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

BHASKAR KATAMNENI
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
The Public Prosecutor

Copy to:

The State Public Prosecutor, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
The OSD to the Minister for RTG Department.
The PS to Secretary to Government, RTG Department.
The Chief Executive Officer, RTGS.
SF/SC

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER